A.—(a) & (b) A portion of the tank-bed was used by the Muhammadans of Aspari village, Alur taluk, Bellary district, as a burial-ground for a long time. It was only last year that this was objected to. The President, Taluk Board, Adoni, has visited the village and selected another site and it is about to be acquired by the Taluk Board. Steps have also been taken to prohibit further burials in the tank-bed.

Alleged inconveniences caused by the Hindu burial-ground at Aspari village, Alur taluk.

*709 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Hindus of Aspari village, Alur taluk, Bellary district, are burying their dead in rastha poramboke leading to Chikkanahalli village inconveniencing the bandies and men using the rastha;

(b) whether the Hindus burn their dead close to the village drinking well; and

(c) if so, whether any steps have been taken to give them unobjectionable sites for the burial and burning of the dead?

A.—(a) & (b) No complaint has been made to the local authorities that the Hindus of Aspari village, Alur taluk, Bellary district, are burying their dead in rastha poramboke leading to Chikkanahalli village or cremating them close to the village drinking water well.

(c) If evidence of such practices is forthcoming local health authorities will take steps to stop them and, if necessary, to prosecute those who disobey.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"Is it the idea of the Government that no steps need be taken to alleviate the nuisance caused to the people because those people are too ignorant and unable to make a complaint about the matter?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar:—"I am sorry, Mr. President, that the hon. Member has not understood the answer correctly. We are not aware of any inconvenience."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"When I tabled that question, I made myself responsible for the facts contained in it; is that not evidence enough at least to make an enquiry into the matter?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar:—"The Government have made enquiries."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"May I ask if the facts are as stated by me?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar:—"The information of the Government is that it has not taken place so far; if it takes place hereafter, trespassers will be prosecuted."